

**MINUTES OF THE  
NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Room 210 Senate Building

January 26, 2016

**Members Present:** Sen. David P. Hinkins, Co-Chair  
Rep. Mike McKell, Co-Chair  
Rep. Kay J. Christofferson, House Vice Chair  
Sen. Jim Dabakis  
Sen. Margaret Dayton  
Sen. Scott K. Jenkins  
Sen. Peter C. Knudson  
Sen. Ralph Okerlund  
Rep. Scott Chew  
Rep. Susan Duckworth  
Rep. Brian M. Greene  
Rep. Stephen G. Handy  
Rep. Timothy Hawkes  
Rep. Lynn N. Hemingway  
Rep. Ken Ivory  
Rep. Michael E. Noel  
Rep. Lee B. Perry  
Rep. Marc K. Roberts

**Members Absent:** Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell

**Staff:** Mr. Ivan D. Djambov, Fiscal Analyst  
Mr. Brian Wikle, Fiscal Analyst  
Ms. Linda Service, Committee Secretary

**Note:** A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.leg.utah.gov](http://www.leg.utah.gov).

### **1. Introductions**

Co-Chair Hinkins called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. and introduced committee members.

### **2. Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** House Vice Chair Christofferson moved to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2015 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Noel absent for the vote.

### **3. Subcommittee Overview**

Mr. Ivan Djambov, Fiscal Analyst, provided a tutorial for committee members and those interested in accessing materials online for individual appropriations meetings. Resources can be found on the Legislature's webpage ([leg.utah.gov](http://leg.utah.gov)) then going to "Committees," "Appropriations," "Natural Resources, Agriculture, Environmental Quality Appropriations Subcommittee." He discussed the Compendium of Budget Information (COBI) which contains financial history, references to statutory authority, performance information, and staff budget analysis at the program level, details on recommendations for budget changes.

Mr. Djambov distributed copies of "Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Appropriations Subcommittee, Calendar for the 2016 General Session," "Resources for Base Budget Review," and clarified information found there. Additional tools were discussed: "Funding Expenditures and FTE Trends," "Past Building Blocks Report, FY 2015 Actual," and "Building Blocks Report, Current Year FY 2016 Projected."

#### **4. Department of Environmental Quality, Review Base Budget**

Mr. Brian Wikle, Fiscal Analyst, introduced the Base Budget for the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The Department has a base budget of \$63.5 million, federal funds making up the largest portion. He discussed information found under the "Overview," "Issues," "Background," and "Financials" tabs.

Alan Matheson, Executive Director, Department of Environmental Quality, provided a general overview of the Department through a slide presentation. Their mission is to safeguard human health and to ensure prosperity and quality of life. He discussed principles used to make sure things are done in the right way and for the right reasons. In addition, he commented on challenges facing the Department and successes which have been achieved. A discussion of issues of concern followed.

Mr. Brent Everett, Director, Division of Environmental Response and Remediation, stated that the mission of the Division is to protect public health and the environment through the cleanup of chemically contaminated sites and to ensure underground storage tanks are used properly. He reviewed the 2015 program with examples, challenges, and operational efficiencies. Mr. Everett responded to questions from the committee.

Mr. Scott Anderson, Director, Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control, noted that the Division's part of the DEQ mission is to ensure the proper management of waste, and the safe use of radioactive materials, and to promote the reuse and recycling of certain waste materials when appropriate. He highlighted the nine programs within the Division and then touched upon funding and efficiencies.

#### **5. Office of Energy Development, Review of Base Budget**

Mr. Wikle addressed the Base Budget for the Office of Energy Development (OED). The appropriation for FY 2017 is \$2.4 million. He gave a brief demonstration of the tab load tool which enables committee members to look at trends and ask questions.

Dr. Laura Nelson, Executive Director, Utah Governor's Office of Energy Development, distributed the handout "Governor's Office of Energy Development" and provided an overview of the office. Their mission is to advance Utah's energy and minerals economy through policy, planning, and direct engagement. Dr. Nelson highlighted recent accomplishments in development and planning, state and federal policy, infrastructure, and outreach and education.

#### **6. Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office, Review of Base Budget**

Mr. Wikle reviewed the Base Budget for the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO) which has an appropriation of \$6 million. Of that, approximately three-fourths comes from restricted accounts; one-fourth coming from the General Fund. When the Legislature appropriates money, there

are certain distinctions of that appropriation: (1) money from a General Fund appropriation is solid money that the agency can spend, and (2) appropriations from restricted accounts, dedicated credits, or federal funds are authorizations for agencies to spend up to that amount of money; it has to materialize for the agency to be able to spend it.

Kathleen Clarke, Director, Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO), distributed copies of "Litigation: Defending the States Interest on Public Lands" and a draft of "Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO) Legislative Mandates." The mission of the office is to preserve and defend the rights of Utahns to access, use, and enjoy the public lands within the state. PLPCO assists the Utah Attorney General's Office with affirmative and defensive litigation on public land issues which affect the state's interests. Director Clarke discussed R.S. 2477 litigation, listings of endangered species, and oil and gas leasing. Mr. Tony Rampton, Public Lands Section of the Attorney General's Office, responded to concerns of the committee regarding Bureau of Land Management decisions on Utah's public lands.

Director Clarke discussed efficiencies; implementing good, new technologies, improving logistics management, keeping FTE's at a steady rate, and leveraging partnerships.

**MOTION:** Rep. McKell moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Dayton, Sen. Jenkins, Sen. Knudson, Sen. Okerlund, and Rep. Noel absent for the vote. Sen. Hinkins adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

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Sen. David Hinkins, Chair

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Rep. Mike McKell, Chair